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" (c) Does not arise.

" (d) Yes.

" (e) The plots were taken over by the Forest department on 25th May 1953. An expenditure of Rs. 1,873–7–6 has so far been incurred on the afforestation work in this area.

" (f) Yes.

" (g) The communal needs of the Sundarapatti villagers have been safeguarded by the authorities concerned, by limiting the area required for forest regeneration to the minimum extent possible."

Number of schools in the State

* 807 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of high schools, higher elementary schools and elementary schools in Madras State during 1953–54?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Eight hundred and forty-one High schools, 118 Middle schools, 2,338 Higher Elementary schools and 19,072 Lower Elementary schools."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" அடுத்த ஆண்டில் திறப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தின் ஆலோசனையில் இருக்கக்கூடிய உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகள் எத்தனை ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" சர்க்கார் உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகள் ஆரம்பிப்பதாக உத்தேசம் இல்லை."

House-sites for Harijans

* 808 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri M. Palanimuthu is not in his place. The question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI M. PALANIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether the Harijans of Kalanivasal and Tiruvalandurai village of Perambalur taluk applied for assignment of house-sites and if so, the action taken on their applications?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Yes. Land acquisition proceedings were initiated for the grant of house-sites to the Harijans in Tiruvalandurai village. Land will soon be taken possession of and assigned to the Harijans for house-sites. The proposal to acquire land for Harijans of Kalanivasal, hamlet of Ogalur village, is in the preliminary stage. The matter is receiving attention of the Collector."

Employees' Provident Fund Act

* 809 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of industries that come within the scope of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, in this State?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The industries to which the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, is applicable are specified in Schedule 1 to the Act, a copy of which is available in the Library of the Madras Legislature."

Allegations against the Madras City Police

* 810 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISAMI PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a refugee, Sri Rup Lal Kapur, M.A., of Perambur, Madras, has represented to Government about the unfair treatment given to him by the Madras City Police and the courts;

(*b*) whether any enquiries have been made on that representation; and

(*c*) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir.

" (*c*) Government are satisfied that the allegations made by Sri Rup Lal Kapur against the officers were not justified."

SRI S. PAKKIRISAMI PILLAI :—" I am told that this educated refugee has been subjected to all sorts of hardships and to several terms of imprisonment, simply because one particular constable took revenge against him and took advantage of the fact that he was a refugee. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would make a re-enquiry into the matter and see that justice is done to this helpless refugee? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, some allegations have been made not only against the Police, but against the courts which convicted him and the High Court which heard revision petition. I do not think we can make an enquiry into the judicial proceedings that had taken place."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, what were the allegations made against the courts? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Unfair treatment meted out to him by the Madras City Police in launching a case against him in courts."

Loan to agriculturists in Kolathur taluk

* 811 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of loan applications of agriculturists under each head received by the Tahsildar of Kolathur taluk in Pudukkottai division of Tiruchirappalli district for 1952–53 and 1953 to the end of October 1954; and

(*b*) how many of them were (1) allowed and (2) rejected?